

People

Some of the interesting people attending the UN conference

1) **Irene Malachi**, 1st HIV positive person in Vanuatu—Save the Children Fund

- a) Workshop (46) – Pacific Island NGOs

Irene Malachi is married with four children and is HIV positive. She studied for five years at Lycee Louis Antoine de Bougainville, Port Vila, Vanuatu and was in Nursing College for three years. Irene was a nurse for 17 years and her experience includes nursing at the maternity ward of the Central Hospital of Vanuatu, nursing at the clinic of Nguna Village in Nguna Island of Efate in Vanuatu, nursing at the out-patient ward of the Central Hospital of Vanuatu and at the Medical Ward of the Central Hospital of Vanuatu. She decided to resign in 2002 after it was declared publicly that she was HIV positive by the Government of the Republic of Vanuatu.



2) **Jasmine Whitbread**, international head of Save the Children Fund

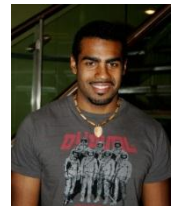
- a) Workshop (30) – Coordinated Action for MDGs 3, 4, 5 & 6 and beyond 2015

Jasmine Whitbread was appointed Chief Executive of Save the Children UK in November 2005, and is also a board member of the International Save the Children Alliance, a confederation of 30 member organisations working in over 120 countries. Before joining Save the Children, Jasmine spent six years with Oxfam GB, first as regional director in West Africa, and then as international director responsible for Oxfam's programmes worldwide. Prior to that, she was managing director of a U.S.-based Thomson Financial business. Jasmine has a background in international marketing in the high-tech sector. She also spent two years as a VSO volunteer with an organisation of disabled people in Uganda.



3) **Harry O'Brien**, (Australia)

- a) Collingwood footballer who will be speaking at a youth forum at the conference
- b) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Harry_O%27Brien
- c) <http://www.theaustralian.com.au/news/magpies-defender-a-leader-in-the-making/story-e6frg7mo-1111116494611>
- d) <http://www.collingwoodfc.com.au/harry%E2%80%99s%20world/tabid/14338/default.aspx>



4) **Dr Ruth Bamela Engo-Tjega** (Cameroon)

- a) founder and president of [African Action on Aids](http://www.africanactiononaids.org/aaa-president.php) (AAA)
<http://www.africanactiononaids.org/aaa-president.php>
- b) works at the United Nations in New York as a Senior Economic Affairs Officer for Africa where she is responsible for concerns related to poverty eradication, microfinance, and dialogue among development partners, including civil society
- c) co-founded the “[Advocates for African Food Security](#)” in 1986



5) **Dr Aleida Guevara** (Cuba)

- a) One of Che Guevara's daughters
- b) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Aleida_Guevara
- c) paediatrician specialising in childhood allergies based at the *William Soler Children's Hospital* in Havana
- d) has also worked as a physician in Angola, Ecuador, and Nicaragua
- e) has been an advocate for human rights and debt relief for developing nations
- f) helps to run two homes for disabled children in Cuba and two more for refugee children with domestic problems



6) **Dr Regina Benjamin** (US)

- a) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Regina_Benjamin
- b) <http://www.answers.com/topic/regina-benjamin>
- c) current (18th) Surgeon-General of US—Vice-Admiral and operational head of the [Public Health Service Commissioned Corps](#) (PHSCC) and thus the leading spokesperson on matters of public health for the US federal government
- d) her medical clinic was destroyed in 2005 by Hurricane Katrina and in 2006 by a fire on New Year's Day, one day before the scheduled reopening. She made headlines when she rebuilt the clinic a second time
- e) highlighted the alarming trend of overweight and obese Americans, and offered a blueprint for grassroots efforts to make changes that promote the health and wellness of families and communities



7) **Dr Sakena Yacoobi** (Afghanistan)

- a) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Sakena_Yacoobi
- b) Executive Director of the Afghan Institute of Learning (AIL), an Afghan women-led NGO she founded in 1995. The organization was established to provide teacher training to Afghan women, to support education for boys and girls, and to provide health education to women and children
- c) AIL supported 80 underground home schools for 3000 girls in Afghanistan after the Taliban closed girls' schools in the 1990s
- d) Yacoobi received the [Gruber Prize for Women's Rights](#) in 2004
- e) www.creatinghope.org/sakenayacoobibiography



8) **Dr Claudio Schuftan** (Chile)

- a) born in Chile but currently based in Ho Chi Minh City, where he works as a freelance consultant in public health and nutrition
- b) Since 1976, has carried out over one hundred consulting assignments 50 countries in Africa, Asia, Latin America and the Caribbean
- c) has worked for USAID, UNICEF, WFP, the EU, the ADB, the UNU, DHHS (USA), WHO, IFAD, Sida, FINNIDA, the Peace Corps, FAO, CIDA, the WCC (Geneva) and several international NGOs



- d) fluent in five major languages
- e) <http://www.humaninfo.org/aviva/>

9) **Dr Noel Brown** (US)

- a) Former director of the United Nations Environment Program
- b) he has served on the Board of Directors of the Global Rivers Environmental Educational Network, the Climate Institute, the Earth Communications Office, the Rainforest Alliance, Global Education Associates, Trust for the Americas, and other environmental and educational organizations
- c) considered an environmental diplomat
- d) Member of the Board of Governors of the [International Ocean Institute](#) (IOI) and a director of Training for IOI, Canada in Halifax, Nova Scotia
- e) Among the first to recognize the importance of the corporate community in the solution of environmental problem
- f) <http://www.pantanal.org/speaker2.htm>



10) **Mick Gooda** (Aust)

- a) http://www.hreoc.gov.au/about/president_commissioners/gooda.html
- b) Aboriginal and Torres Strait Islander Social Justice Commissioner
- c) descendent of the Gangulu people of central Queensland
- d) senior executive with 25 years experience and a record of attaining high-level goals and leading multi-million dollar service programs and organisational reform
- e) currently a Board Member of the Centre for Rural and Remote Mental Health Queensland, and is the Australian representative on the International Indigenous Council which focuses on healing and addictions
- f) has an interest in the Lateral Violence Program in Canada and has been working closely with the First Nation people of Canada on the relevance of this program to Australia



11) **Michel Sidibé**, Executive Director, UN AIDS

- a) http://www.unaids.org/en/AboutUNAIDS/Leadership/EXD/EXD_Sidibe_biography.asp

Michel Sidibé has been the Executive Director of UNAIDS, the Joint United Nations Programme on HIV/AIDS, and Under-Secretary-General of the United Nations since 1 January 2009. He is committed to transforming UNAIDS into a results-oriented organization and to supporting countries to achieve universal access to HIV prevention, treatment, care and support and to meeting the Millennium Development Goals.



12) **Sir George Alleyne**, Special Envoy for HIV/AIDS in the Caribbean

- a) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/George_Alleyne
- b) <http://www.unaids.org/en/AboutUNAIDS/Leadership/SpecialEnvoys/Alleyne.asp>



- c) Chancellor of University of the West Indies
- d) Former Director of the [Pan American Health Organization](#) (PAHO), Regional Office of the [World Health Organization](#) (WHO)

13) **Dr Mary Norton (US)**, Chair

- a) <http://www.fulbright.org/about-us/news/dr-mary-norton-UN-conference>
- b) five-time Fulbright recipient
- c) associate dean and professor of global academic initiatives at Felician College in Lodi, New Jersey



14) **Chris Varney** (Aust), Former Australian Youth Ambassador

- a) Speaker, closing ceremony



15) **Ali Abdussalam Treki**, (Libya), President of the 64th session of the General Assembly

- a) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Ali_Treki
- b) He was foreign minister of Libya from 1976 to 1982 and again from 1984 to 1986.
- c) Treki assumed office as [President of the United Nations General Assembly](#) on 15 September 2009.



16) **Dr Catherine Hamlin** (Australia)

- a) <http://www.hamlinfistula.org.au/drhamlin/history.html>
- b) http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Catherine_Hamlin
- c) Australian obstetrician and gynaecologist, the co-founder of Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital with her late husband, New Zealander Dr. Reg Hamlin
- d) pioneer in fistula surgery for her development of techniques and procedures for obstetric fistula treatment
- e) The Addis Ababa Fistula Hospital is the world's only medical center dedicated exclusively to providing free [fistula](#) repair surgery to poor women suffering from childbirth injuries
- f) on 26 January 1995, Dr. Hamlin was awarded Australia's highest honour, being promoted to the grade of Companion of the Order of Australia.
- g) On 1 January 2001, she was awarded the Centenary Medal for 'long and outstanding service to international development in Africa'
- h) She has been described as a modern day "Mother Teresa" in an editorial by Pulitzer Prize winning writer Nicholas Kristof of the *New York Times*.

